

American Civil War Round Table of Australia (NSW Chapter)

2003 Conference

Chairman's Introductory remarks

To commemorate the 140th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg and the surrender of Vicksburg, the New South Wales Chapter of the American Civil War Round Table of Australia is holding its 2003 Conference and has chosen as its theme:

Gettysburg and Vicksburg – The Tide Turns

The conference program comprises two parts: first, there is a series of presentations focusing on the conditions facing both sides of the conflict up to and during the Gettysburg and Vicksburg Campaigns; this part includes, also, consideration of the consequences of the Union victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg. The second part of the conference addresses some of the more general issues relating to the Civil War with the keynote address posing the question:

Could the South Have Won the War?

A series of responses to the keynote address is to be given by a group of senior secondary school History teachers, all of whom are recipients of the Premier's American History Scholarships and who have all undertaken studies in the United States as part of this scholarship program. In this regard, conference participants have been privileged to experience a level of scholarship not often afforded our Round Table group.

Various people involved in the presentations at the conference have prepared the papers that comprise this publication. In most cases, these papers go beyond the matters raised in the actual presentations and seek to elaborate on the issues raised by the speakers in their presentations.

It is hoped that these papers will provide a permanent and positive record of what we hope has been an interesting and worthwhile conference.

Paul Kensey